

Legislative Update

Volume 1, Issue 12

April 8, 2005

This Week:

▪ **Week In Review**

- Opening Remarks
- About the Budget
- CMPFE
- Substitute Decision Making
- ?'s to Consider
- Other Issues
- Day-by-Day

▪ **Program Feature:**

- Case Management Program for the Frail Elderly
- Medicaid \$ for Case Management
- CMPFE inflation impact (as first seen in the March 25th Update)

▪ **In the Legislature**

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■-□-■ WEEK IN REVIEW ■-□-■

Opening Remarks

The second funnel date of April 8th, today, means any bill that has not passed at least one chamber and one standing committee in the alternate chamber has for all intensive purposes died. While some things can be resurrected in the budget bill (as we hope substitute decision making will be), a number of bills have again been winnowed down as the legislature wraps up the 2005 session of the 81st General Assembly. All of the department bills remain alive with the exception of the Office of Substitute Decision Making, which is discussed below.

It is still about the budget

[House File 825](#) (House Republican Budget) passed the full House on Tuesday.

The good news first:

The department's request for \$61,000 for its nutrition programs was restored to the level recommended in the Governor's budget. Our thanks to both Representative Heaton and Representative Foege for their assistance in helping to amend the bill.

The bad news:

The Case Management Program for Frail Elders continues to be under funded and the Office of Substitute Decision Making was not funded.

See page 7 & 8 for CMPFE related charts.

Case Management Program for Frail Elders:

The department did not receive the requested appropriation to partially restore funding to the Case Management Program for Frail Elders (CMPFE) as recommended by the Governor in the amount of \$500,000. The vote on the amendment submitted by the department was very close, 47 in favor, 50 opposed.

Some things to remember about the CMPFE Program:

1. The State General Fund appropriation to the CMPFE Program was cut by 46.37% between FY 01 and FY 05.
2. Appropriations to the CMPFE program do not reflect the actual cost of the program.
3. In FY 05, Iowa's General Assembly backfilled state general fund appropriations to partially restore the cuts in the amount of \$500,000 from the Senior Living Trust. [Chapter 249H of the Iowa Code](#), passed by the general assembly in 2000, discusses the purpose of the Senior Living Trust.
4. The program has never had an inflationary increase. The Governor's budget proposes an additional \$500,000 to begin addressing the eroding foundation of this program.
5. Area Agencies on Aging have no choice but to supplement the CMPFE program with Senior Living Program dollars. These dollars could be used for direct services such as adult day services, chore, respite, transportation, etc...
6. The CMPFE program saves Iowa taxpayers millions of dollars each year. The CMPFE program is the gateway to the Title XIX HCBS Elderly Waiver for over 5000 individuals accessing Medicaid and to education and case management services for thousands of other seniors who have resources in excess of the Medicaid resource limit but are in need of services.
7. The CMPFE program is heavily subsidized at the local level. The state does not pay for ongoing case management as a service under the Title XIX HCBS Elderly Waiver, with the cost of this ongoing case management born by the provider community.

Office of Substitute Decision Making:

The Department's bill related to substitute decision maker did not make the first funnel date ([HF 120](#), same as [SF 211](#)), consideration is being given to including it as an amendment to the budget bill by Senate Democrats.

Should the Department not receive a state general fund appropriation of \$135,548, the Department will have no choice but to decline the grant.

What Elder Affairs Has Done to Act in Good Faith and To Move the Bill:

- Received a federal grant, (earmarked by Senator Harkin under Title XIV of the Older Americans Act) in the amount of \$391,642 for funding in year one. There is a required 25% state match requirement. DEA is requesting \$135,548 (about \$5,000 over the minimum match required). This is \$554,052 less than originally requested. We have also reduced the number of FTE's from 3 to 1.5. This is the minimum staffing required in order to achieve the outcomes described in the proposed bill.
- DEA has agreed to strike all language related to registration of powers of attorney, representative payees, guardians and conservators. Without this language, there was no objection to the bill moving forward in sub-committee.

Why is the bill needed?

- The Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 will become effective January 1, 2006, relating to Part D, there are likely to be a number of vulnerable and challenged adults who are unable to make decisions and who have no one to act on their behalf.
- Many adults in need of a decision maker have no one available.
- Iowa is 1 of 6 states without a public guardianship system. This costs the states thousands of dollars each year as challenged adults and frail seniors whom are unable to make decisions for themselves and become "stuck" in the most restrictive environment at the greatest cost because there is not one to make decisions for them. This proposed legislation helps the state comply with the Olmstead Act and is consistent with the states desire to rebalance its long-term care system.
- Iowa has a large elderly population and the need for a substitute decision maker increases with age.
- Adults with disabilities are outliving their family decision makers.
- Medicaid does not probate. This office could provide cost savings to the state by assisting the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program.
- The Office of Substitute Decision Making could also assist individuals who require institutionalization to liquidate their assets to be used in turn to provide for their care (i.e. keeping individuals off of the Medicaid system or reducing the overall time spent as a Medicaid enrollee). It is not uncommon in such cases that a home and other property remain unsold and begin to deteriorate or are vandalized because no one is available to act on the behalf of the challenged adult or senior.

SOME QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- What incentives are there for providers of home and community based services to continue participating in the CMPFE Program?
 1. HCBS providers are not reimbursed at market rates for most Medicaid services (while there is a 3% increase proposed for this year, many HCBS services have had less than a 2% increase in over a decade).
 2. The capitated payment rate remains at \$1,052 for the Title XIX HCBS Elderly Waiver.
 3. Providers are not reimbursed for ongoing case management services. (See page 7)
 4. Providers are not paid to have their staff members attend CMPFE meetings, which usually meet at least one to two times monthly for one to two hours.
- What impact will waiting lists have on the possibility of premature or unnecessary institutionalization to frail and vulnerable older adults whom are unable to access CMPFE services to enroll in the Medicaid system or to better understand their long-term care options?
- Is the state effectively utilizing existing systems to help contain the cost of Medicaid?
- Is the state effectively utilizing existing systems to provide more consumer choices in long-term care?
- Are there ways to draw down Federal Financial Participation Dollars for ongoing case management under Title XIX Elderly Waiver?
- Why is Iowa one of six states with no office of substitute decision making when it ranks #2 per capita for individuals over the age of 85; #3 per capita for those aged 75+?

Who to Contact:

In addition to contacting your local senators, contact [Senator Maggie Tinsman](#) and [Senator Jack Hatch](#) as they are the co-chairs for the Senate side of the [Health and Human Services Joint Appropriations Subcommittee](#). Their contact information as well as the other Senators on the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee are as follows:

Senators:	Switchboard	515-281-3371
Jack Hatch, Co-Chair.....	jack.hatch@legis.state.ia.us	
Maggie Tinsman, Co-Chair ...	maggie.tinsman@legis.state.ia.us	
Joe Bolkcom.....	joe.bolkcom@legis.state.ia.us	
David Johnson	david.johnson@legis.state.ia.us	
Amanda Ragan	amanda.ragan@legis.state.ia.us	
James A. Seymour	james.seymour@legis.state.ia.us	

Other Important Issues being Discussed:

Medicaid Redesign- [HF 841](#) is Moving Quickly- Comment Needed by Monday, April 11th.

[House File 841](#) (Iowa Care Act) is proposed as the compromise with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) related to the issue of Intergovernmental transfers. Issues addressed in this bill include the expansion of population benefits; provisions for expansion populations members to financially participate; Rebalancing Long-Term Care; and level of care determination. We encourage you to review this bill and to provide any comment you may have to the committee chair, [Representative Danny Carroll](#). Other members in the House and Senate who are working on this legislation are: Representatives [Mark Smith](#); [Ro Foege](#), [Dave Heaton](#) and [Linda Upmeyer](#). Senators [Jack Hatch](#) and [Maggie Tinsman](#) are also involved. This bill will move to the full [Human Resources standing committee](#) next week.

Find more information at:

<http://staffweb.legis.state.ia.us/lfb/medicaid/medicaid.htm>

Biological Mental Illness Coverage:

[HF 420](#) passed the [Senate Commerce Committee](#) and now moves to the full Senate. This bill requires insurance plans for businesses with more than 50 employees to include coverage for biologically based mental illness and defines mental health conditions. This bill did not go as far as the department had hoped, however, it is a positive step and we are supportive of the bill moving forward. Another related bill pending is [HF 785](#).

Tobacco Tax:

It appears there is an increasing willingness to move this issue forward, [Senator Iverson](#) will allow a vote on a cigarette tax during this session. The Governor supports a .80 cigarette tax but would likely support up to a \$1.00 per pack increase.

Revenue Estimating Conference (REC):

The REC meets today, and it is rumored that the projections for state revenue are above projections for FY 05. This will also expand the base for FY 04. Be advised, a better forecast in state revenue does not mean there will not be a need for a cigarette tax in order to support a number of programs within the Health and Human Services budget.

Day-By-Day at the Capitol

Monday: The Senate confirmed two new departmental commission members, Yvonne Minton of Des Moines and Robert Neumann of Council Bluffs. The Senate also reconfirmed current commissioner Lisa Carlson.

In the [Senate Human Resources Committee](#), [HF 478](#) related to the Retired Senior Volunteer Program passed the committee and now moves to the full Senate. [HF 617](#) instructing the department of human services to apply for a specific waiver for assisted living programs passed the Senate Human Resources Committee and now moves to the full Senate.

Tuesday: The full Senate passed [SF 379](#) related to Iowa's probate code. The bill now goes to the Governor. The Senate also passed [SF 341](#) related to Iowa's long-term living system. This bill now goes to the House. The House passed [HF 589](#) related to nursing home property taxes. The bill now goes to the Senate.

[HF 825](#), The Health and Human Services Appropriation bill passed the House and now moves to the Senate. The department's nutrition position was funded, however, as discussed above, the Governor's request of \$500,000 for CMPFE was not included. An additional 25,000 was also provided to the Veteran's Commission to work with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. The Senate Commerce Committee passed [HF 420](#) Biologically Based Mental Illness out of committee, the bill now moves to the full Senate.

Wednesday: The Senate Human Resources Committee rushed to keep a number of bills alive. The following bills were passed out of committee and now move to the full Senate: [HF 585](#) – Assisted Living Programs; [HF 587](#) – Adult Day Services; [HF 620](#) - Volunteer Health Care; [HF 710](#) - Elder Group Homes; [HF 724](#) - Prescription Drug Donations; [HF 760](#) – Dependent Adults; [HF 781](#) - Direct Care Task Force; [HF 789](#) - Public Health Programs.

Thursday: The House Human Resources sub-committee related to [HF 841](#) (Iowa Cares Act – Medicaid Redesign) met to continue discussions on the bill. A number of technical changes were made. This bill will likely move to the Standing Committee on Tuesday, April 12th.

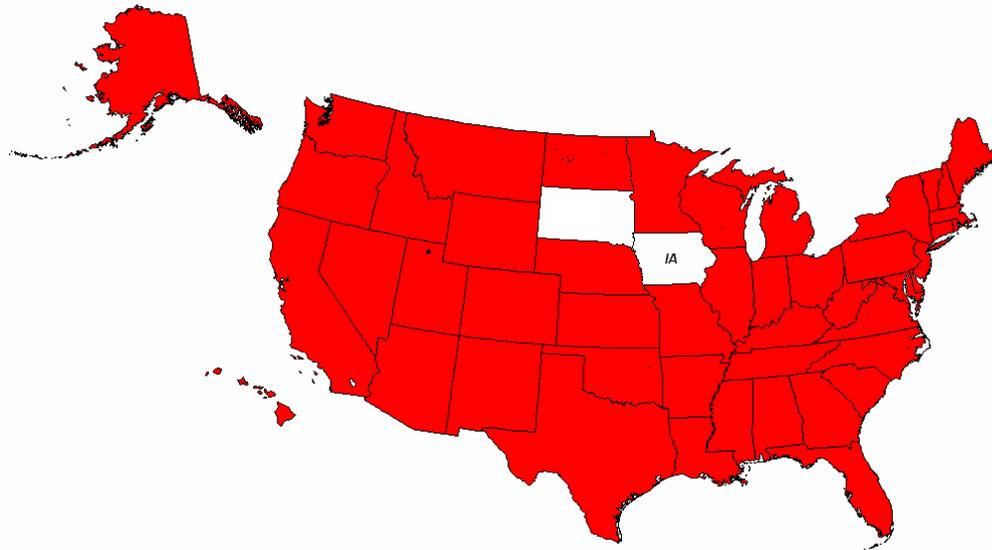
[SF 341](#) – Long Term Living System was voted out of the House Human Resources standing committee. Representative Upmeyer believes the bill needs additional work and will amend it on the floor. Additional discussions are likely in the Human Services standing committee next week.

[HF 785](#) related to MH/DD/BI Services was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

Regards, *Joel Wulf* DEA Legislative Liaison

■-□-■ ELDER AFFAIRS FEATURE PROGRAM ■-□-■
Case Management Program for Frail Elders

States that Receive Medicaid Dollars for On-going Case Management for Seniors



A state-by-state survey shows that Iowa is the only state that provides on-going Case Management to elderly recipients but does not access Medicaid funding to help pay for the service. The states in red are states that draw down federal Medicaid dollars to support on-going Case Management for elderly recipients.

Please note:

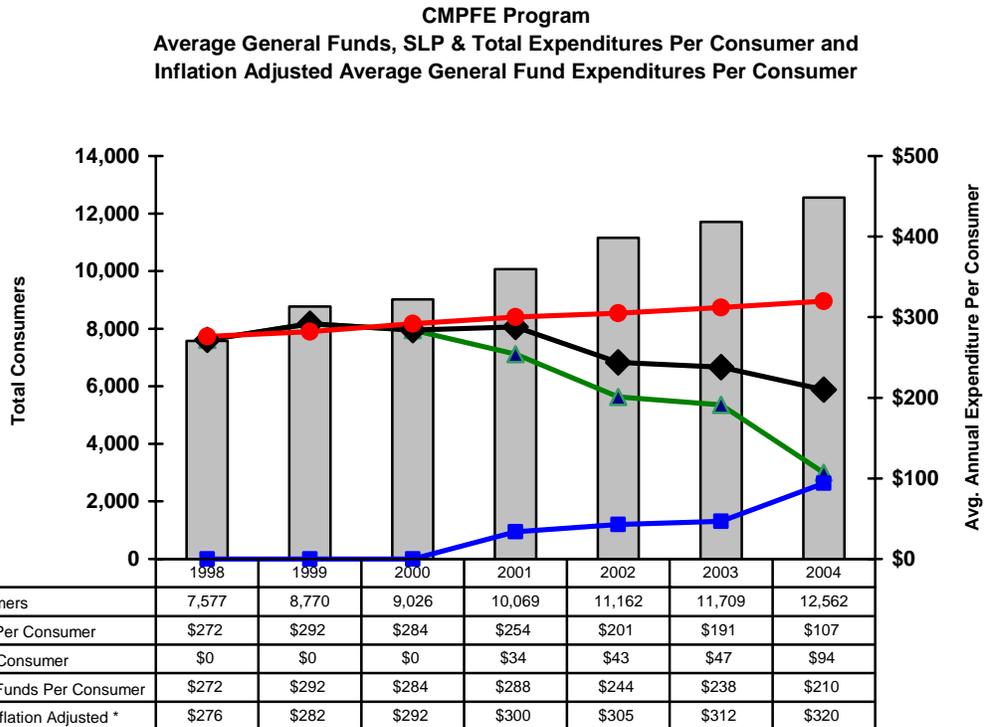
- South Dakota does not provide Case Management services to Medicaid recipients as part of that state's Medicaid State Plan.
- Ongoing Case Management is a separate service and distinct from assessment.

References: CMS website of State Plans, National Association of State Medicaid Directors website, telephone survey by DEA staff week of March 28, 2005.

Data compiled by the **Iowa Department of Elder Affairs.**

* repeated from previous update

ELDER AFFAIRS FEATURE PROGRAM Case Management Program for Frail Elders



Notes:

- Inflation Data obtained from InflationData.com
- Inflation impact is based on state general fund appropriations and not actual total cost to provide case management services.
- Senior Living Program dollars began in FY 01, therefore, SLP dollars were not adjusted for inflation.
- Based on standard inflationary data and actual FY 04 CMPFE participants, in order to maintain 1998 levels of funding, the appropriated dollars should be \$320 per participant per year vs. the \$210.00 appropriated in FY 04. (FY 05 data is not yet available).

Conclusions:

- Without including inflationary impact since 1998, the actual state appropriation (both SLP and State General Fund) to CMPFE has decreased by \$62.00 per participant per year or -23%.
- To keep funding levels at a 1998 level, considering inflation, the actual CMPFE appropriation should be \$320 per participant per year vs. \$210.00, a needed increase of \$110.00 or +34%.
- Based on 2004 actual figures, an additional \$1,381,820 is needed to remain at 1998 spending levels.
- The Governor's FY 2006 budget proposes a \$500,000 partial restoration to the CMPFE program. The House Republican budget proposes no increase.

■-□-■ IN THE LEGISLATURE ■-□-■

The following is a listing of the bills the department is supporting or monitoring. If you would like more information on a particular bill, click on its number and you will be directed to the Iowa General Assembly online bill book.

For more information,
the Iowa Legislature
General Assembly
homepage is
www.legis.state.ia.us

Departmental Bills:

[HF 505](#) **Elder Iowans Act** A bill for an act relating to the provisions of the elder Iowans Act. (Human Resources) (Successor to [HSB 157](#)) ([SSB 1140](#)) **Placed on calendar under unfinished business.**

[HF 539](#) **Medical Assistance Advisory Council** An Act relating to the membership of the council with which the director of human services consults regarding the medical assistance program. ([SSB 1042](#)) (Successor to [HSB 100](#)) (Human Resources) **Passed out of committee** Floor manager: Tomenga **Placed on calendar under unfinished business.**

[HF 585](#) **Assisted Living Programs** An Act relating to assisted living programs, providing for application of a penalty, and providing for a fee. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 587](#) **Adult Day Care** An Act relating to adult day services regulation and providing penalties. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 710](#) **Elder Group Homes** An Act relating to the regulation of elder group homes and providing penalties. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 760](#) **Dependant Adult Abuse** A bill for an act relating to dependent adults and the provision of protective services. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[SF 272](#) **Medical Assistance Advisory Committee** An Act relating to the membership of the council with which the director of human services consults regarding the medical assistance program. **Passed out of Senate to House**

[SF 304](#) **Elder Iowans Act** An Act relating to the provisions of the elder Iowans Act. **Passed out of Senate to House**

Bills of Significant Interest to the Department:

[HF 119](#) **Older Iowans Legislature** A bill for an act providing an appropriation for the older Iowans legislature. (Appropriations) Committee members: Watts (C), Horbach, and Smith

[HF 420](#) **Biological Mental Illness Coverage** A bill for an act relating to third-party payment of health care coverage costs for biologically based mental illness treatment services. (Formerly [HSB 117](#)) (Commerce) **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

Bills of Significant Interest to the Department *continued*

[HF 478](#) **Retired & Senior Volunteers** A bill for an act relating to the Iowa commission on volunteer service. (Human Resources) (Successor to [HSB 103](#)) **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 586](#) **Medicare Task Force** A bill for an act relating to the creation of a task force to provide for the implementation of Medicare Part D and providing an effective date. (Human Resources) **Placed on calendar under unfinished business.**

[HF 617](#) **Assisted Living Waivers** A bill for an act relating to inclusion of assisted living services under the medical assistance home and community-based services waiver for the elderly. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 706](#) **Adult Abuse Cases** A bill for an act relating to access to dependent adult abuse information and unemployment compensation claims. **Placed on calendar under unfinished business.**

[HF 781](#) **Direct Care Taskforce** A bill for an act relating to the establishment of a direct care worker task force. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 785](#) **MH/DD/MR/BI Services** A bill for an act relating to mental health, mental retardation, developmental disabilities, and brain injury service requirements and including an effective and applicability date. (Ways and Means)

[HF 786](#) **Health Facility Business** A bill for an act relating to the operating or providing of another business or activity in a health care facility. **Passed Senate to Governor.**

[HF 788](#) **Nursing Facility Quality** A bill for an act relating to a nursing facility quality assurance assessment, providing a contingent effective date, providing for retroactive applicability, and providing an effective date. (second committee - Ways and Means) Committee members: Carroll (C), Upmeyer, Wilderdyke

[HF 825](#) **Health and Human Services Budget** A bill for an act relating to and making appropriations to the department of human services, the department of elder affairs, the Iowa department of public health, the commission of veterans affairs and the Iowa veterans home, and the department of inspections and appeals, providing for fee increases, and including other related provisions and appropriations, and providing effective dates. (Formerly [HSB 284](#)) **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 841](#) **Iowa Care Act** A bill for an act relating to health care reform, including provisions relating to the medical assistance program, providing appropriations, providing effective dates, and providing for retroactive applicability. (Human Resources) Committee members: Carroll, Foege, Heaton, Smith and Upmeyer.

[SF 29](#) **Long Term Care Alternatives** A bill for an act relating to the senior living trust fund, providing for appropriation of the moneys in the fund, and providing for a repeal. (Appropriations) Committee members: Angelo and Dvorsky (C)

Bills of Significant Interest to the Department *continued*

[SF 157](#) **Older Iowans Legislature** A bill for an act making an appropriation for the older Iowans legislature. (Appropriations) Committee members: Angelo and Dvorsky (C)

[SF 335](#) **Dependant Adult Abuse** A bill for an act relating to access to dependent adult abuse information and unemployment compensation claims. **Passed Senate to House**

[SF 341](#) **Long Term Living System** A bill for an act relating to the long-term living system in Iowa including establishment of the intent for Iowa's long-term living system. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[SF 355](#) **Medicare Task Force** A bill for an act relating to the creation of a task force to provide for the implementation of Medicare Part D and providing an effective date. **Passed Senate to House**

Bills the Department is monitoring:

[HF 2](#) **Pension Income Phase Out** An Act relating to the phase out of state income tax on pension income and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways & Means) Committee Members: Boal (C), Huser, Shoultz, Soderberg and Struyk.

[HF 24](#) **SS Income Phase Out** A bill for an act relating to a phase-out of the state income taxation of social security benefits and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways & Means) Committee members: Boal (C), Huser, Shoultz, Soderberg, Struyk

[HF 210](#) **Nursing Licensing Fund** A bill for an act providing for the retention of licensing and renewal fees received by the board of nursing, and providing an effective date. (Appropriations) Committee members: Jacobs (C), Heaton, Mascher

[HF 215](#) **Tobacco Tax** A bill for an act increasing the taxes imposed on cigarettes and tobacco products and providing for appropriation of the increased revenue generated to the medical assistance program and for tobacco control and prevention, and providing an effective date. (Ways & Means)

[HF 227](#) **Code Editor Bill** A bill for an act relating to statutory corrections which may adjust language to reflect current practices, insert earlier omissions, delete redundancies and inaccuracies, delete temporary language, resolve inconsistencies and conflicts, update ongoing provisions, or remove ambiguities, and including effective and retroactive applicability date provisions. (Formerly [HSB 118](#)) (Judiciary) Committee members: Boettger, Fraise, Schoenjahn, and Zaun **Passed House and Senate to Governor**

[HF 237](#) **Cigarette Taxes** A bill for an act increasing the taxes imposed on cigarettes and providing for appropriation of the revenue generated to the medical assistance program and for tobacco control and prevention, and providing an effective date. (Ways & Means)

Bills the Department is monitoring *continued*

[HF 281](#) **Inheritance** A bill for an act relating to certain penalties for filing false affidavits and the time for examining and determining a correct return under the state inheritance tax and increasing the amount of property that may be transferred to minors under certain conditions and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Formerly [HSB 10](#)) (Judiciary) **Signed by the Governor – March 21, 2003**

[HF 339](#) **Tobacco Retailers** A bill for an act relating to the regulation of tobacco product retailers, and making penalties applicable. (Formerly [HF 167](#)) (successor to [HF 167](#)) (Public Safety) **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 455](#) **Death Certificate Fees** A bill for an act relating to fees imposed for certified copies of death certificates. (Ways and Means) Committee members: Tomenga, Boal, and Davitt

[HF 461](#) **SS Income Phase Out** (Ways and Means) **Passed out of committee**
Floor manager: Boal

[HF 519](#) **Expenditure Limitation** A bill for an act relating to the state general fund expenditure limitation and making appropriations to repay certain funds, and providing effective and applicability dates. (Appropriations)

[HF 536](#) **Dual Government Employment** A bill for an act relating to dual governmental employment by executive branch officials and state employees. (Formerly [HSB 123](#)) (State Government) **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 589](#) **Nursing Home Property Taxes** A bill for an act relating to the property taxation of nursing facilities and including effective and applicability date provisions. **Passed House to Senate**

[HF 715](#) **Charter Agencies/Reinvention Funds** A bill for an act relating to state government financial matters concerning charter agencies, the state appeal board, and reinvention initiatives of the department of management, and making appropriations. (Appropriations) Committee members: Roberts (C), Jacobs, Kuhn

[HF 724](#) **Prescription Drug Donations** A bill for an act creating a prescription drug donation and redispensing pilot program, and providing penalties. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 729](#) **Retirement Systems Change** A bill for an act relating to the Iowa public employees' retirement system and the judicial retirement system. **Passed to Senate.**

[HF 748](#) **Education Savings Plan** A bill for an act providing for state employee payroll deductions for qualified tuition program contributions. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 770](#) **Food Code to DPH** A bill for an act providing for the Iowa department of public health to administer the hotel sanitation code, regulation of home food establishments, Iowa food code, and regulation of egg handlers in place of the department of inspections and appeals. (Human Resources) **Passed House to Senate, amended, Passed Senate to House**

Bills the Department is monitoring *continued*

[HF 772](#) **Open Meetings Violations** A bill for an act relating to violations of the open meetings and open records law by a member of a governmental body, the lawful custodian of a public record, or any other appropriate person. **Passed House to Senate; passed out of committee.**

[HF 795](#) **Inheritance Tax Credit** A bill for an act relating to an inheritance tax credit for transferring a portion of an inheritance to an entity for capital investment, programming, including education, performance, and access, in arts and culture and providing a penalty. (Ways and Means)

[HF 819](#) **Asset Disregard** A bill for an act relating to asset disregard under the medical assistance program for the purchase of a certified long-term care insurance policy, providing for a repeal, providing a contingent effective date, and providing an appropriation. (Formerly [HF 736](#)) **Placed on calendar under unfinished business.**

[HF 821](#) **Prescription Drug Assistance** A bill for an act relating to the establishment of a prescription drug assistance clearinghouse program by the commissioner of insurance, and providing for a contingent appropriation. (Formerly [HF 709](#)) **Passed out of committee** Floor Manager: Heaton

[HF 836](#) **Cemeteries Bill** A bill for an act relating to cemeteries and cemetery regulation, providing administration and enforcement procedures, establishing requirements for interment rights agreements and reporting, establishing and appropriating fees, and providing penalties. (Formerly [HF 763](#)) (Formerly [HSB 212](#)) **Placed on calendar under unfinished business.**

[HF 837](#) **Charter Agencies** A bill for an act relating to state government financial matters concerning charter agencies, the state appeal board, and reinvention initiatives of the department of management, and making appropriations. (Formerly [HF 715](#)) (Formerly [HSB 191](#)) **Placed on calendar under unfinished business.**

[SF 75](#) **Veterans Benefits** A bill for an act allocating funding appropriated to assist individuals assigned to active duty military service and providing effective and applicability date provisions. (Formerly [SF 30.](#)) (Appropriations) **Signed by the Governor – March 10, 2003**

[SF 93](#) **Pensions and SS Exclusions** An Act reducing the amounts of pension income and social security benefits that are taxable by the state and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Ways and Means) Committee members McKibben & Quirnbach (C), Connolly, Zaun

[SF 113](#) **Editor Code Bill** A bill for an act relating to non substantive Code corrections and including effective and retroactive applicability date provisions. (Judiciary) ([SSB 1088](#)) **Signed by the Governor – March 3, 2005**

[SF 130](#) **Tobacco Tax** A bill for an act relating to an increase in the taxes on cigarettes and tobacco products, creating a medical assistance and health promotion fund, providing for appropriations, and providing an effective date. (See [HF 215](#)) (Ways & Means) Committee members: Bolkcom & Zieman (C), Connolly, Zaun

Bills the Department is monitoring *continued*

[SF 136](#) **Child & Dependant Care Credit** A bill for an act increasing the child and dependent care credit under the individual income tax and including a retroactive applicability date provision. (Ways and Means) Committee members: McKinley & Quirmbach (C), Connolly, Zaun

[SF 156](#) **Health Center Programs** A bill for an act relating to health care by providing for increased health care access, developing a lay health workers network, and providing appropriations. (Appropriations) Committee members: Hatch & Tinsman (C), Angelo, and Dvorsky

[SF 275](#) **Farmer's Market Vendors** A bill for an act requiring the department of agriculture and land stewardship to revise certain application requirements applicable to the women, infants, and children Iowa farmers market nutrition program and the senior farmers market nutrition program and providing an effective date. (Agriculture) **Passed to the House**

[SF 314](#) **Medical Savings Accounts** A bill for an act relating to contributions made to medical savings accounts for state income tax purposes and including effective and retroactive applicability date provisions. (Ways and Means) Committee members: Connolly, McKibben, Miller, and Quirmbach

[SF 335](#) **Adult Abuse Cases** A bill for an act relating to access to dependent adult abuse information and unemployment compensation claims. (Business and Labor) **Passed to House**

[SF 376](#) **Pension Exemption** A bill for an act providing an additional exclusion from pension or retirement income for certain taxpayers for purposes of the state and individual income tax and providing a retroactive applicability date. (Ways and Means)

[SF 379](#) **Probate Code** A bill for an act relating to the Iowa probate code, the Iowa trust code, and certain other trusts. **Passed Senate and House**

[SF 394](#) **Transferring Tax/Credits** A bill for an act relating to veterans by providing for the establishment of a department of veterans affairs, and extending veterans' benefits, preferences, eligibility for appointments, and the military service tax credit and exemption to certain members of the reserve forces of the United States and the Iowa national guard and providing an effective date. (Formerly [SF 292](#) & [333](#)) **Passed Senate to House**

Our Mission:

To provide advocacy, educational, and prevention services to older Iowans so they can find Iowa a healthy, safe, productive, and enjoyable place to live and work.

■-□-■ **DISCLAIMER** ■-□-■

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The Legislative Update is distributed electronically during the legislative session by the Iowa Department of Elder Affairs for informational purposes only. Recipients of this update are encouraged to share it with others.

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